



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

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PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER SYSTEMS BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A MAJOR WEATHER EVENT

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Operators of wastewater treatment systems, wastewater conveyance systems, and stormwater systems should prepare for a major weather event by taking the following steps:

Before a Major Weather Event

- ☐ Update your emergency contact list for internal and external communications
- ☐ Test your remote access and communication systems and ensure they are in good working order
- ☐ Place operating/emergency response personnel on call and review emergency procedures
- ☐ Provide the NJ State Police with 24 hour contact information for your organization (operation center) in the event a travel restriction is imposed
- ☐ Provide an emergency response personnel list to the operator on 24-hour call
- ☐ Ensure that all supplies, including water treatment chemicals and fuels, are fully stocked and secured to the maximum extent possible
- ☐ Test auxiliary power sources and generators to ensure they are in good working order
- ☐ If applicable, arrange for portable generators for key pumping stations
- ☐ Inspect infrastructure and back-ups to ensure they are functioning properly
- ☐ Inspect Combined Sewer Systems and ensure that the regulators, screening facilities, netting and tide gates are functioning properly
- ☐ Clear all road storm drains and storm inlets prior to the storm event

During a Major Weather Event

- ☐ **STAY CLEAR OF FLOODED STORMWATER COLLECTION AREAS (BASINS) ESPECIALLY INLET AND OUTLET STRUCTURES DURING AND AFTER A STORM EVENT**
- ☐ Monitor all critical infrastructure components for signs of trouble
- ☐ Monitor *radio stations* serving your area for emergency public service announcements
- ☐ Ensure all emergency response personnel carry company issued identification with picture and carry the 24 hour contact number in the event they are pulled over (critical for systems serving multiple municipalities with different law enforcement agencies)

After a Major Weather Event

- ☐ **STAY CLEAR OF FLOODED STORMWATER COLLECTION AREAS (BASINS) ESPECIALLY INLET AND OUTLET STRUCTURES DURING AND AFTER A STORM EVENT**
- ☐ Avoid direct contact with flood waters
- ☐ Inspect/assess critical infrastructure for damage, where you can do so safely

Ongoing Actions

Any non-compliance with permit limitations, anticipated or unanticipated bypass, or violation as outlined in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10, must be reported to the DEP Hotline (1-800-WARN DEP) within 2 hours of the event or knowledge of the event, or 24 hours depending on the nature of the violation (see N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10). The Department also urges any facility experiencing non-compliance or anticipating such non-compliance to contact downstream drinking water purveyors and their local department of health.

Emergency Repair Projects: The Department of Environmental Protection has developed a process to respond expeditiously when emergencies occur, obtain basic project information, make an eligibility determination and issue a pre-award approval so that owners/operators can expeditiously undertake the needed repairs and maintain eligibility for those expenditures through the Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program.

For wastewater facilities, see:

Page 18 of the FFY16 Clean Water Intended Use Plan Proposal at

http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/cwf_2016P_cwpl.pdf . You can also contact the Municipal Finance and Construction Element at 609-633-1170.

Additional information can be found at the following links:

<http://www.epa.gov/hurricanes/>

<http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm>

Should you have any questions contact the Division of Water Quality at 609-292-9977